(b) Government's policy aims at sustainable and diversified development of agriculture with emphasis on optimisation of production, removal of imbalances and creation of employment thereby ensuring the interests of all sections of the agricultural community.

The Government have constituted a Standing Advisory Committee consisting of eminent representatives of the farming community to assist and advise the Government on a continuing basis in the formulation and implementation of the agricultural policy.

(c) The High-Powered Committee may submit an interim report in two month's time and its final report within a period of six months.

Supply of goods to New Super Cooperative Stores without cheque clearance by NCCF

1338. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Manager (CC&MER) in NCCF, Delhi Branch has recently supplied goods worth Rs. 50,000/- to New Super Cooperative Store without waiting for cheque being cleared;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Officer while working in Chandigarh Branch in 1986-87, had similarly supplied Confiscated Goods worth Rs. 80,000/- on credit to a Cooperative Society without the approval of the competent authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are serious allegations of corruption and of showing undue favours to 3 Cooperative Stores in the sale of Confiscated Goods in Delhi Branch against the said officer;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Internal Audit, NCCF, has recently found the said Officer responsible for loss of about Rs. 12 lacs in purchase of coal without any disposal prospects and loss of Rs. 9.22 lacs in supply of Handloom product to Punjab Federation without payment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken against the involved Assistant Manager?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The NCCF are investigating into the matter.

(d) The Assistant Manager concerned is one Among the other officers who had handled the case relating to purchase of Coal. The loss, if any could be known only when all the stock is disposed off. However, against the total expenses of Rs. 9.76 lakhs incurred in the handling of Coal, an amount of Rs. 9.27 lakhs has been realised as sale proceeds by the disposal of 1039 MTs. NCCF are taking action to dispose of the balance stocks of 280 MTs of Coal valued at Rs. 2.44 lakhs (Approx.). As regards the supply of handloom products worth Rs. 9.22 lakhs to Punjab Federation which were affected against indent, the NCCF have yet to receive the payment. The matter is being pursued.

(e) Action could be initiated by the NCCF only after the completion of investigations.

Daily wagers employed in Public Sectors

1339. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of daily wagers currently employed in Government and Public Sector Organisations;

(b) the number of daily wagers who initially joined these organisations more than two years ago; and

(c) whether there is a uniform policy for the regularisation of daily paid workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The information is not being maintained by the Ministry of Labour.